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August 21, 2020

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly newsletter. Below you will find important federal, state and local updates from the last week curated for you in one place.

This week, the House Public Education Committee issued five Requests For Information for input from State Agencies, Interested Parties and the Public. [Each RFI can be viewed by clicking here](#), but in summary there is one request per Interim Charge, [issued by Speaker Dennis Bonnen](#) late last Fall, as well as a general COVID-19 inquiry. I encourage you to take a minute to review each request. To submit responses, refer to the [posting](#) for specific instructions.

There is a possibility for some severe weather in our area early next week. As always, we ask that you be as prepared, as storms like this can come about quickly during hurricane season. But now would be a great time to make sure you are ready. Visit www.ready.gov for more information on how you can "[Make A Plan](#)", "[Build a Kit](#)", "[Prepare Your Home](#)" and "[Be a Good Neighbor](#)". There is no better time than now to get prepared! Pay close attention to the news and weather alerts for more detailed information.

Should you have any questions about the information below, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Sincerely,



State Updates

DSHS: COVID-19 Case Dashboard

Texas Case Counts

COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

DSHS 7-DAY COVID DASHBOARD

As of August 14th, 2020

CASES

520,593

TOTAL AS OF 8/14

+ 46,069

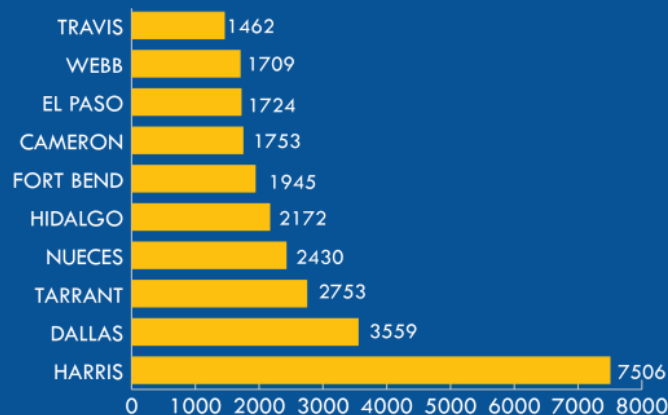
OVER PAST 7 DAYS

+ 9.71%

OVER PAST 7 DAYS

COUNTIES

Top 10 Counties with Highest #
New Cases over Past 7 Days



[Visit the DSHS Coronavirus Case Counts Dashboard](#)

Gov. Abbott Announces Procurement Of Over 1 Million Devices, WiFi Hotspots Through Operation Connectivity



Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

Governor Abbott Announces Procurement Of Over 1 Million...

Governor Greg Abbott today announced that the Texas Education Agency (TEA), in partnership with Local Education Agencies, has procured more than 1 million personal devices and internet WiFi hotspots as part of the state's Operation Connectivity...

[Read more](#)
gov.texas.gov

TWC Investigating Potential Fraud Cases



TWC Investigating Potential Fraud Cases

Date: August, 14, 2020 Media Contact: Cisco Gamez Phone: 512-463-8556 Agency Reminds the public to keep personal information secure AUSTIN -The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is working to address a potential fraud situation after the agency's ...

[Read more](#)
www.twc.texas.gov

Governor Abbott Directs TWC To Apply For Federal Lost Wage Assistance Funds



Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

Governor Abbott Directs TWC To Apply For Federal Lost...

Governor Greg Abbott today announced that the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has applied for additional unemployment benefit funding made available through President Trump's Lost Wage Assistance Executive Order. If granted, this funding will...

[Read more](#)
gov.texas.gov

TxDOT: FM 1960 Virtual Public Meeting August 25th - 27th, 2020

The purpose of the virtual public meeting is to gather public input on the proposed improvements for the FM 1960 Access Management Study, from East Gatewick (just east of I-45) to BF1960A (east of I-69). The virtual meeting will consist of a narrated presentation by the study team, exhibits, roll plots, a study survey and an opportunity to comment. Comments received by Tue., Sept. 8, 2020, will be a part of the official public record.

The Study has identified short-, medium-, and long-range improvements to reduce crashes, improve mobility, enhance multi-modal connectivity, and support existing and future development. This virtual public meeting provides an opportunity to learn about these proposed improvements, ask questions, and provide feedback.

The virtual public meeting link will be available [here](#) beginning Aug. 24 at 4:30 p.m. through Sept. 8, 2020. In addition, the TxDOT project team will be available online through a chat function included as part of the virtual public meeting to answer questions at the following dates and times:

- Tue., Aug. 25, 2020; 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- Wed., Aug. 26, 2020; 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- Thu., Aug. 27, 2020; 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The Notice of this Virtual Public Meeting is available to view here:

<http://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/pub/txdot/get-involved/hou/fm1960/o82420-notice.pdf>

The Public Comment Card is available here: <http://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/pub/txdot/get-involved/hou/fm1960/o82420-comment-card.pdf>

House Public Education Committee Issues Requests For Information (RFIs)

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and challenges in scheduling public hearings at this time, the House Committee on Public Education is conducting necessary oversight functions through an information gathering process under Section 301.014, Government Code.

This is notice that the House Committee on Public Education is seeking information and input from state

agencies, interested parties, and the public in regard to the topics and questions outlined below. Submissions received in response to this request will be transmitted to members of the committee and posted on the House website.

The Committee has issued several RFIs to garner responses regarding COVID-19 and [Interim Charges](#). Each RFI can be viewed at the links below:

- **Interim Charge 1:**
 - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900001.HTM>
- **Interim Charge 2:**
 - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900002.HTM>
- **Interim Charge 3:**
 - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900003.HTM>
- **Interim Charge 4:**
 - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900004.HTM>
- **COVID-19:**
 - <https://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/86R/schedules/html/C4002020081900005.HTM>

Submission Guidelines

- Submissions must be in Microsoft Word, written in a 10-point font or larger.
- Please submit a separate document for each topic to which you are responding.
- Submissions are to be limited to 5 pages of text in length.
- Submissions must be submitted via e-mail to education@house.texas.gov

Please include the following information in the submission email: submitter name, organization, or entity (if applicable and an authorized representative), mailing address, email, and telephone number.

The deadline for all submissions is Wednesday, September 30, 2020. Comments received in response to this Request for Information will be publicly posted on TLO, TLIS, and the House website. When submitting comments, please remove any personal identifying information, such as your personal phone number, residence address, or e-mail address. In the event it becomes feasible to safely conduct a public meeting, the Committee reserves the right to hold an in-person hearing on these charges.

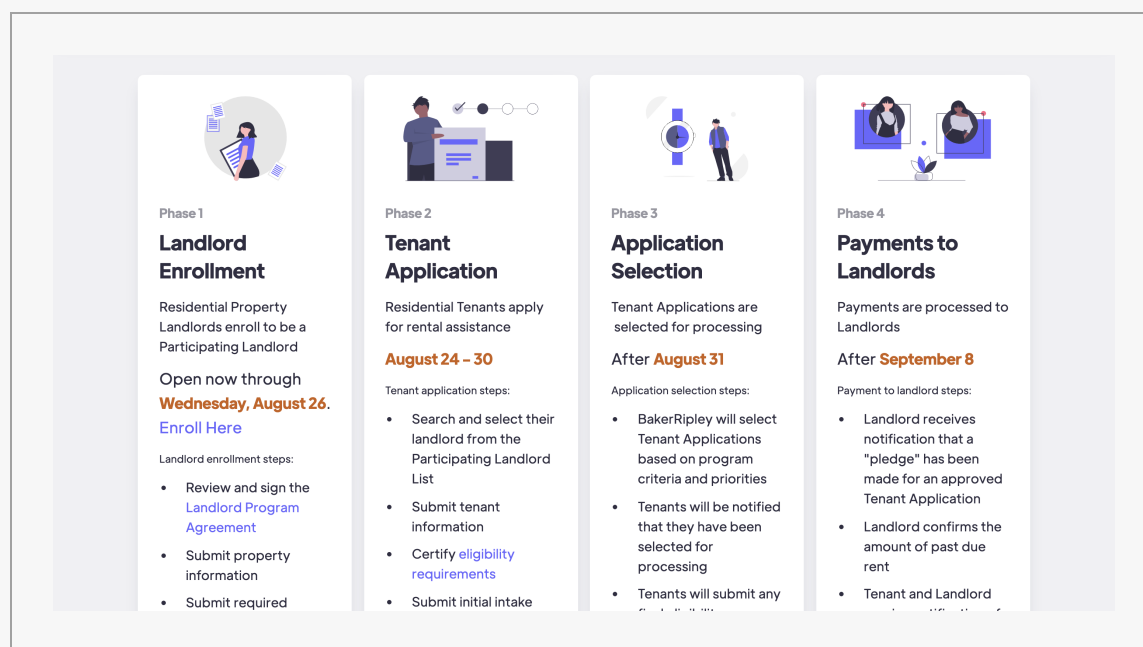
City of Houston & Harris County Updates

Harris County Public Health Dashboard



Harris County
Public Health
Building a Healthy Community

COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program



BakerRipley COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program

BakerRipley is administering COVID-19 Rental Assistance programs for Harris County and the City of Houston to provide rental assistance for eligible residents impacted by COVID-19. BakerRipley, through \$25 million in funding provided by Harris...

[Read more](#)

www.bakerripleyrenthelp.org

City of Houston Small Business Economic Relief Program



CITY OF HOUSTON Small Business Economic Relief Program

**Online Application
Portal Opens:**
Wednesday, August 19, 2020 8:00 a.m.

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and City Council approved \$15 million for the City of Houston Small Business Economic Relief Program that will provide immediate and short-term grant assistance to small businesses impacted economically in Houston's communities due to COVID-19. Funded through the Federal CARES ACT, the grant program is designed to help the most vulnerable small businesses with access to capital and technical assistance needed to survive the pandemic.



Program Eligibility

The goal is to be a resource that businesses economically impacted by COVID-19 may leverage to sustain their operations during and after the pandemic.

- Must be a for profit business operating within the city limits of Houston for at least one (1) year, prior to March 1, 2020.
- Must provide evidence of how business revenue has significantly decreased because of government restrictions or other challenges due to COVID-19.
- A business qualifies if it generated \$2 million or less in gross annual revenue pre-COVID-19.
- Must be in good standing regarding City requirements, e.g. property taxes, personal property, grounds for debarment, etc.
- Must commit to completing the technical assistance component of this program provided via Program Administrator.
- Local chambers of commerce operating within the city limits of Houston are eligible to apply.

Small Business Grants
up to **\$50,000**

Online Application Portal Closes:
Friday, September 4, 2020 11:59 p.m.

Applications must be submitted electronically through the online web portal.



For details about application criteria & how to apply, visit:
www.cityofhouston-sberp.org

PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY



Phone: (713) 845-2462

E-mail: info@cityofhouston-sberp.org

Kings Harbor Labor Day Concert & Fireworks

KINGS HARBOR LABOR DAY CONCERT + FIREWORKS

SEPTEMBER 6

CONCERT: 7-10 PM
FIREWORKS: 9:30 PM

Grab your lawn chairs for an evening of live music featuring TC & The Cannonballs and a fireworks spectacular off the pier!
For more information visit kings-harbor.com.



KINGS HARBOR
WATERFRONT VILLAGE

FM 1452/SH 99 Intersection Traffic Impacts



Title	Date/Time	Description
Baytown - SH 99 SB	Aug 14 - 22, 2020 (7:00 AM - 6:00 PM)	SH 99 southbound lane impacts between IH 10 and Kilgore Parkway.
Baytown - Fisher Rd	Aug 14 - 22, 2020 (7:30 AM - 6:00 PM)	The left lane of eastbound and westbound SH 99 railroad bridge and Fisher Rd. will be closed
Dayton - CR 686	Aug 17 - 22, 2020 (7:00 AM - 6:00 PM)	Flagging operation on FM 686 from CR 621 to CR 622.
Dayton - CR 602	Aug 17 - 22, 2020 (7:00 AM - 6:00 PM)	Flagging operation on CR 602.
Dayton - FM 1960	Aug 17 - 22, 2020 (7:00 AM - 6:00 PM)	Flagging operation on FM 1960.
Dayton - US 90 WB	Aug 17 - 22, 2020 (7:00 AM - 5:00 PM)	Single right lane closure on US 90 westbound near County Road 491.
Dayton - CR 603	Aug 17 - 22, 2020 (7:00 AM - 6:00 PM)	Flagging operation on CR 603 from CR 602 to CR 604.
Mont Belvieu - IH 10	Aug 22, 2020 (8:00 AM Saturday - 7:00 AM Sunday)	Closure of IH10 Eastbound/Westbound Main Lanes & Frontage Roads. See details here.
Mont Belvieu - FM 565	Aug 17 - 22, 2020 (7:00 AM - 6:00 PM & 7:00 PM - 5:00 AM)	Flagging operations on FM 565 near Mont Belvieu City Hall.
Mont Belvieu - 146	Aug 17 - 22, 2020 (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)	Right lane closures of 146 northbound and southbound near Eagle Drive.
New Caney - SH 99 EB Frontage	Ongoing (24 Hours)	The left lane of the SH 99 eastbound frontage road from Valley Ranch Pkwy. to the US 59 southbound frontage road.
New Caney - US 59 SB	Aug 18, 2020 (8:00 PM - 5:00 AM)	The two left lanes of southbound US 59 from 1314 to the Junction after SH 99 will be closed.
New Caney - US 59 SB	Aug 19, 2020 (8:00 PM - 5:00 AM)	The two right lanes of southbound US 59 from 1314 to the Junction after SH 99 will be closed.
New Caney - Loop 494	Aug 20 - 22, 2020 (8:00 PM - 5:00 AM)	Loop 494 between Community Drive and Eagle Drive closed.
New Caney - US 59 NB	Aug 17, 2020 (8:00 PM - 5:00 AM)	The two left lanes of northbound US 59 from 1314 to the Junction after SH 99 will be closed.
New Caney - FM 1485	Ongoing (24 Hours)	Flagging operation on FM 1485 from Redbud to Scott Gardner.

Capitol & District Office Closures

The District & Capitol offices will remain closed in line with suggested Stay Home, Work Safe guidelines. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter or district127.huberty@house.texas.gov.

Contact Information

State Representative
Dan Huberty
[Email Dan](#)

Casey Christman
Chief of Staff
[Email Casey](#)

Jack Reed
Legislative Director
[Email Jack](#)

Ryan Marquess
Committee Clerk
[Email Ryan](#)

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